

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: NOCERA, Carmelo; CECCONI, Vito

SERIAL NO.: 10/518,984

ART UNIT: 1722

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EXAMINER: Fetsuga, R. M.

TITLE: SIPHON FOR SINK OR SIMILAR ELEMENT

Amendment C: CLAIM AMENDMENTS

Claims 1-13 (canceled). These claims have been canceled by previous amendments.

14. (Currently amended) A water trap for a sink comprising:

an upper portion;

a lower portion pivotally connected to said upper portion;

a linking means positioned between said upper portion and said lower portion, said linking means for centering said upper portion with respect to said lower portion;

a sealing joint in sealing relation to said upper and lower portion, said linking means comprising:

at least one hinge connected to said lower portion so as to allow said lower portion to pivot around an axis of the hinge, the hinge being dismantleable so as to separate said lower portion from said upper portion; and

a locking means mounted to ~~one of~~ said upper portion and said lower portion for locking said upper portion to said lower portion, said locking means formed of a clip, said ~~locking~~ locking means for compressing said sealing joint when said upper portion is engaged with said lower portion, said upper portion and said lower portion being forced together by snapping said locking means, said locking means comprising:

a base connected to one of said upper and lower portions; and

a stud extending outwardly of the other of said upper and lower portion, said clip having a locking element having a curved edge and stop abutment, said clip being pivotally mounted to said base such that said curved edge of said locking element is cooperative with engages said stud, locking element being in snapping engagement with said stud at said stop abutment.

15. (Previously presented) The water trap of Claim 14, said clip and said hinge being formed of a polymeric material.

16. (Previously presented) The water trap of Claim 14, said upper portion having a rim at a bottom thereof, said lower portion having a rim at a top thereof, one of the rims being engaged within the other of the rims so as to center said upper portion with respect to said lower portion.